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State aid to potters

* 2735 Q.—SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any representation, dated 15th February 1955, from the Potters' Union, Manamadurai, for financial aid to acquire land for constructing kilns ; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An expenditure not exceeding Rs. 1,800 has been sanctioned towards the cost of acquisition of the land, as requested by the Union.

Joint survey of irrigation and power potential of Travancore-Cochin States and Madras

* 2736 Q.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether this Government have requested the Planning Commission to institute a joint survey by the two States of Madras and Travancore-Cochin of the irrigation and power potential and to pool the water now going to waste in two reservoirs one on the extreme south of Tirunelveli-Ramanathapuram-Travancore border and other on Coimbatore-Travancore-Cochin border; and

(b) if so, the reply received thereto?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : (a) This Government have requested the Planning Commission for a joint investigation of the feasibility of diverting waters in some of the west-flowing rivers to the Madras State for the mutual benefit of the Madras and Travancore-Cochin States.

(b) The Planning Commission has stated in its reply that it proposes that schemes in which the diversion of the water looked 'prima facie' advantageous, be investigated by the Central Water and Power Commission with the close collaboration of the State Governments.

Temple entry

* 2737 Q.—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. Minister for Registration, Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact, that weavers in Nedunkuli village near Wandiwash on 25th May protested against the entry of Harijans into a temple when celebrating the marriage of a Harijan in the village temple and observed hartal ;

(b) whether police aid was given to celebrate the marriage of the Harijan in the village temple; and

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(c) whether any action has been taken against the weavers and temple authorities under the Temple Entry Authorization Act and Removal of Civil Disabilities Act?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : (a) There is no village of the name of Nedunkuli in Wandiwash taluk. On 25th May 1955, a temple in Nedungunam village of that taluk was thrown open to Harijans, in the presence of some prominent persons, and the occasion was also availed of by the local Harijans to celebrate the wedding of a Harijan Engineerng graduate at the temple. The Member is presumably referring to this matter. It has been reported that the temple authorities fully co-operated with the Harijans on the occasion and that though the weavers of Nedungunam did not quite relish the celebration, they did not give vent to their feelings in any manner.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(Starred question No. 2738 postponed to to-morrow.)

Starting of heavy industries

* 2739 Q.—SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIYAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) the number and names of the heavy industries proposed to be started in the State and submitted to the Central Government by the State Government during the years 1947–54;

(b) whether any sanction was accorded to start any of these industries;

(c) whether any proposals for the starting of heavy industries in the State have been sent for inclusion in the Second-Five Year Plan; and

(d) if so, what they are and what their cost is?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (a) The State Government did not draw up and submit during the period 1947–54 any detailed scheme to establish heavy industries in Madras State. But they requested the Government of India to investigate the possibility of setting up in South India an iron and steel industry to utilise the iron ore found in Salem district with the help of lignite from South Arcot district and also an aluminium industry to utilise bauxite found in the Shevaroy Hills in Salem district

(b) No, Sir.

(c) & (d) Apart from the integrated lignite scheme at Neyveli which is expected to be implemented by the Government of India, proposals for the establishment of the following heavy